

Save Foggy Bottom...It's Where We Live!

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Stay the Course

Continued ANC Support Needed
to Preserve Foggy Bottom

By Joy Howell
President, FBA

We want to express our thanks to the four Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A commissioners who supported the FBA and the community in the passage of the recent resolution opposing George Washington University's latest over-development plans – including commercial use of Square 54, the old hospital site, for the Foggy Bottom neighborhood. (*“ANC Votes Against GW’s Proposed Plans for Square 54,” 12-14-05.*)

Outgoing Commissioner Richard Price and ANC veteran Dorothy Miller led the commission's action and were joined by Chair Vince Micone and Commissioner Anne Savage in voting for the resolution. Community residents – including numerous students in attendance – unanimously spoke in favor of the resolution. By law, the city is required to give “great

weight” to the ANC’s views; that is why we are grateful the commission courageously and properly represented our Foggy Bottom community by passing the resolution.

Of some concern to us is that Commissioner James Morris voted against the community’s wishes on the resolution, which called for enforcement of the legal requirements of GWU’s Campus Plan. This included enforcement of the student headcount cap – 20,000 – the largest by far of any university in the District, and a limiting of GWU to its remaining 550,000 square feet of building capacity to preserve the residential nature of our historic neighborhood, a requirement of the city’s Comprehensive Plan.

We hope that Commissioner Morris’ vote is simply a result of unfamiliarity with the very complex nature of the GWU Campus Plan and that he will take the community’s views into consideration on future related matters. We appreciate the work of the newer ANC-2A commissioners and hope they will continue to listen to FBA members’ concerns and work with us as they make the crucial decisions that will

affect the future of Foggy Bottom. Our residential neighborhood is at a “tipping point” in the ongoing effort to compel GWU to comply with the law governing campus development, and we need the full support of ANC-2A.

We certainly hope that at the ANC’s Jan. 18 meeting that Commissioner Miller is re-elected as ANC-2A vice-chair, both as a sign of respect by her fellow commissioners and in recognition of her enormous contributions to the community. She has worked tirelessly for decades to preserve Foggy Bottom and to serve the constituents of this area. Much like Sen. Robert Byrd in the U.S. Senate, Commissioner Miller is viewed by many as the “Conscience of the ANC” and she is now the most seasoned member of that body.

We ask concerned residents to attend the Jan. 18 ANC meeting to thank the commissioners for passing the resolution and ask the ANC to re-elect Commissioner Miller as vice-chair unanimously.

Editor’s Note: ANC-2A will hold its meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 18, at 7 p.m., at the State Plaza Hotel, 2116 F Street, NW.

West End Library’s Hours Expanding

The West End Library’s hours will expand starting today, Jan. 18, to include morning hours on Mondays and Wednesdays. The new hours on those days will be 9:30 a.m. – 9 p.m., from the former 1 p.m. – 9 p.m. hours. Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday hours will remain the same, 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Branch Librarian Barbara Kubinski said she was pleased with the new hours, as the neighborhood library at 24th and L Streets is coming off the recent \$150,000-plus face-lift it had about three years ago. Kubinski should know – she’s been in the library system since the 1970s, with a short break in the ‘80s.

“The ‘70s were the heyday of the libraries,” she said. “We didn’t have much money, or technology; there were no computers – only card catalogs.”

Today, the library boasts seven computers, including four adult terminals, two for children and one express unit. The renovations, which took place in 2002 into early 2003, were coordinated in part by the West End Library Friends, said Richard Price, the former president of that group. “We spent virtually all of the funds received from [an agreement with the developers of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel behind the library] – \$150,000 – both for painting the exterior and interior renovations, including new furniture,” Price said. The library now has a new roof and air-conditioning system.

“The D.C. Public Library system



Books This Way: Long-time Branch Librarian Barbara Kubinski is a friendly, familiar face to visitors at the West End Library. All Photos: FBN

spent an additional amount for other renovations, to the bathrooms, for example,” Price told the FBN. The system “held the project up as an excellent example of a public-private partnership they have sought to foster and replicate for other purposes throughout the system,” he added.

Kubinski, for her part, noted the library has had its share of growing pains, including her own assault last August by a homeless man who

threw a telephone at her, leaving her hospitalized with a concussion. The perpetrator was since sentenced to four months in jail and ordered to stay away from the library, and the branch now

employs an officer to keep peace – and who will ask you not to talk on your cell phone inside.

While sympathetic with the area’s homeless, some of whom encamp near the library regularly, Kubinski said the library had to close its book-drop chute after some deposited bodily fluids inside the chute.

But she is more eager to highlight some of the library’s programs, including a children’s program, film and book clubs that all meet on regular basis. The library also has two meeting rooms open to public use – all you need to do is sign up to use them and not charge admission to those attending your meeting.

The library is also open to those outside the area, including people who work or go to school in the West End / Foggy Bottom neighborhoods, Kubinski said. Most of the surrounding areas have reciprocal agreements with D.C., so people from throughout the region may get D.C. library cards and utilize the branch’s books and services.

—MGM

THE FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS

c/o West End Library

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The Foggy Bottom News is published by the Foggy Bottom Association as a service to its members and provides information on FBA and neighborhood news, programs, activities and other events of interest to FBA members. Contributions and story ideas are welcome, but the FBN reserves the right to edit or hold pieces as space requires.

The Foggy Bottom Association was formed by a group of citizens in 1955 and was formally incorporated in 1959. Attendance at FBA meetings is open to all residents of Foggy Bottom and the West End.

FBA Officers:

PRESIDENT – Joy Howell
VICE PRESIDENT – Barbara Spillinger
SECRETARY – Jill Nevius
TREASURER – Russell Conlan
MEMBERSHIP – Edward B. Gable Jr.

FBA Board of Directors:

Ellie Becker, Joseph G. Chaplick, Elizabeth B. Elliott,
Jacqueline G. Lemire, Michael G. Malloy, James R. O’Leary,
Ronald Cocome (Immediate Past President; *Ex Officio*)

Library Friends Group Accepting Books

The West End Library Friends is accepting book donations (excluding textbooks) in preparation for a future book sale. Books may be left at the library’s information desk.

Proceeds from Friends’ book sales are used to support the library’s children’s and other programs and to purchase books, periodicals, business publications, DVDs and videos, said Friends member Lucille Duprat.

In addition to its periodic book sales, the Friends group also sells books during regular library hours. The books are located in a bookcase to the left as you enter the library. Hardbacks sell for one dollar and paperbacks for fifty cents.



The Library’s Staff: Officer John Smith, Michael Barnes, William Proctor, Patricia Flynn, Barbara Kubinski, Julie Kulikowski, Marina Fonseca. (Not pictured: Anthony Hook, Jennifer Jones, Kathy Jenkins, Eliza Sampson, Susan Williams.)

→ → → FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS (continued from preceding page) January 18, 2006

Use that FBA Membership Card!

Foggy Bottom Association members receive a variety of discounts from local area merchants simply by showing our membership card! Here's a list – and stay tuned for our "Preferred Merchants Program," coming in 2006! The membership card also allows FBA members use of GWU's Gelman Library.

FBA MEMBER DISCOUNTS

Blackie's Restaurant

1217 22nd St., NW
Tel: 333-1100 • Fax: 331-7850
50% discount on any wines offered by the glass;
valid only with dinner

Chateau Florist

2000 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Tel: 293-9005
10% off any arrangement of at least \$25

Danny Diaz, Ltd. (Men's Clothing)

522 23rd St., NW
Tel: 296-2767
20% off merchandise; 10% off men's and women's alterations

Elenco Salon

504 23rd St., NW
Tel: 293-3006
\$5 discount on any hair service

Expressions (Fine Clothing)

2000 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Tel: 775-9299
15% discount

Grillfish Restaurant

1200 New Hampshire Ave., NW
Tel: 331-7310 • Fax: 331-3751
10% off food purchases
(does not apply to alcohol)

Marshall's Bar & Grille

2524 L St., NW
Tel: 333-1155 • Fax: 333-4664
10% off; does not apply to any other discounts

Metropolitan Optical

2000 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Tel: 659-6555 • Fax: 659-2134
15% off any eyewear purchase; not applicable with
other offers or on contact lenses

New Hampshire Valet

600 New Hampshire Ave., NW
Tel: 342-5700
10% off dry cleaning, laundry, shoe repair

One Fish Two Fish

2423 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Tel: 882-0977
10% off total meal bill for dine-in and carry-out only;
not available on delivery orders

Primi Piatti

2013 Eye St., NW
Tel: 223-3600 • Fax: 296-3725
10% off check

ProEuro Hair Design

2100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Tel: 887-9191
10% off haircut and style; 20% off color highlights or perm

600 Restaurant at the Watergate

600 New Hampshire Ave., NW
Tel: 337-5890 • Fax: 337-5895
10% discount after 8:00 p.m.
(does not apply to bar service or alcohol)

Sizzling Express Columbia Plaza

538 23rd St., NW
Tel: 659-1234 • Fax: 659-2800
10% off hot foods, salads, sandwiches and fountain sodas
(does not apply to sushi)

Thai Coast Restaurant

2514 L St., NW
Tel: 333-2460 • Fax: 333-2462
10% discount on food in restaurant (does not apply to alcohol)

Watch & Band Clinic

2000 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Tel: 785-4552 • Fax: 785-4552
15% off leather watch bands

Watergate Gallery & Frame Design

2552 Virginia Ave., NW
(Watergate Mall)
Tel: 338-4488 • Fax: 338-4451
10% off custom framing

Watergate Photo & Copy

2560 Virginia Ave., NW
Tel: 333-7700 • Fax: 333-3083
10% discount

Watergate Valet

2546 Virginia Ave., NW
(Watergate Mall)
Tel: 337-7570
10% discount on dry cleaning and laundry

Watergate Wine and Beverage

2544 Virginia Ave., NW
(Watergate Mall)
Tel: 333-0636 • Fax: 965-2416
Wine: 10% off per case • Liquor or Water: 5% off per case

Williams The Tailor

825 21st St., NW
Tel: 822-8000
10% off general alteration and repair

The Wine Specialist

2115 M St., NW
Tel: 833-0707 • Fax: 833-9507
10% off on all non-sale items (includes single bottle / cases
of wine, liquor, beer, water, soda, etc.); not valid with
other sales and promotions

SAVE THE DATES!

2006 FBA General Membership Meetings:

January 30	May 22
February 27	June 26 –
March 27	Annual meeting
April 24	Speakers TBA

All meetings at Melrose Hotel, 2430
Pennsylvania Ave. NW, at 7:30 pm.